

The Kennesaw Youth Council was created in 2002 to encourage teen involvement in local government and the community. It is an eight-member team of high school students who are selected by a panel of school representatives and city staff through a written application and oral interview process.

The purpose of the Youth Council is to provide the Mayor, City Council and city staff with a teen perspective on the Police Department, the Parks & Recreation Department and future growth. The Youth Council meets twice a month at City Hall. Its members develop agendas and report directly to the City Council at scheduled Council meetings.

Kennesaw's Mayor, Council and city staff are committed to working with these young people to address their needs and concerns, and to further educate them on the operation of local government. Mrs. Suzie Thrash serves as advisor and liaison to the Youth Council.

Since the implementation of this program, other communities in the area have emulated the Kennesaw Youth Council as a model to start similar type programs. The Youth Council has an office at Kennesaw Mountain High School, giving students greater access to members who can deliver their concerns directly to the City Council.